Burundi joined the g7+ countries in 2010 and is one of the 13 African members of the g7+.

Peacebuilding and Statebuilding have been high priorities over past years leading to the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement signed in August 2000 which showed that political dialogue can provide a way to resolve conflicts. The elections that have followed in 2005 and 2010 were organized in peace and serenity. In 2007 Burundi signed the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding based on 5 pillars: good governance, cease fire with rebel groups, security, justice & human rights and land issues & community recovery. [continued page 2]
RECENT ACTIVITIES CONTINUED ...

The co-chairs of the International Dialogue, g7+ chair and Minister of Finance of Timor-Leste, Her Excellency Emilia Pires and Denmark’s Minister of Development Cooperation His Excellency Christian Friis Bach, acknowledged the spirit of dialogue and partnership in which the meeting had been conducted.

g7+ Ministers met with the **President of the World Bank** Dr. Jim Yong Kim and senior Bank and IMF staff on the 21st of April. Specific commitments by the Bank in response to advocacy by the g7+ include g7+ involvement in International Development Association (IDA) meetings, increased Bank flexibility and allocation of the best and most experienced staff to fragile states. In this meeting Managing Director Caroline Anstey flagged plans to increase IDA to fragile states and explained that procurement reforms were underway. Responding to g7+ emphasis on better natural resource management she noted that managing natural resources is part of IDA 17 and that there is fund on managing negotiation for post conflict situations. Countries from the g7+ will participate in the next IDA 17 meeting in Nicaragua in early July.

After the meetings in Washington several Ministers travelled to New York for an event at the **International Peace Institute (IPI)**. This panel discussion included the co-chairs of the IDPS on the topic of “Peace and Stability in the Post-2015 Framework.” This was a well broadcast event reaching into the development, political and academic community in New York City and allowing the core messages of the g7+ to get to a larger audience.

The **2013 Fragility Forum** was held on 1st of May in the World Bank headquarters in Washington DC and brought together leaders and practitioners with extensive experience working on fragility and conflict situations. Liberia’s Finance Minister Amara Konneh was a key speaker along with World Bank President Dr. Jim Kim. The panel provided critical insight on how countries in conflict-affected situations can exit fragility and discuss how the World Bank Group can work alongside such countries to help end extreme poverty and support long-term development.

The **Somalia New Deal kick-off event** was held on 14th of May in Mogadishu. This was a high-level meeting to introduce the New Deal as a framework for engagement in Somalia, bringing together all the different national stakeholders including government, parliament, civil society and development partners. As South-South experience sharing, the g7+ focal points present at this event stayed 3 additional days to share experiences, knowledge and inputs, towards the next stages of the process.

The **2nd g7+ Technical Meeting** for 2013 took place in Dubai on the 27th and 28th of May in Dubai United Arab Emirates allowing further consultation and planning for ongoing work. Following the technical meeting the **New Deal Implementation Working Group** convened to develop tools to aid countries in the process of aligning to and implementing the New Deal. An extended report on the Technical meeting will be posted on the g7+ website as more information becomes available.

COUNTRY UPDATE - BURUNDI CONTINUED ...

In 2012 after the successful implementation of this first strategic framework Burundi adopted an inclusive and participative Strategic Framework for Growth and Fight Against Poverty (CSLP II in French). Burundi has also adopted a « 2025 Vision » and the CSLP II is the framework to operationalize it.

The remaining challenges regarding peacebuilding have been incorporated in the CSLP II through its first pillar “Statebuilding, building good governance and promotion of gender equality” (this refers to Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals 1, 2 and 3).

Regarding the New Deal a Partners Coordination Group has been established as the framework for dialogue between the Government and Development Partners.

[continued page 3]
MEET THE MINISTER
When the g7+ met in Haiti in November last year our Somali focal point, Sadik Farah was glowing with pride as the news came through on the appointment of the Cabinet of the Federal Government of Somalia. Announced as a part of that cabinet was Minister of Finance His Excellency Mohamud H Suleiman.

With the new federal government in place in Somalia the international community has been keen to recommence their involvement in development assistance. Whilst welcoming the assistance the Government has been firm on insisting that development engagement is to be aligned with the New Deal.

Our g7+ media team were able to talk briefly with Minister Suleiman in Washington DC recently.

**g7+ Media:** What is the New Deal and what does it represent to you?
**Minister:** It’s a process which will help us to build and to control the country. We have been in conflict for more than 2 decades. It is a formula that will help us to build the country.

**g7+ Media:** There seems to be a lot of interest from donors who are willing come and help Somalia as development partners – the EU, Norway, Denmark, the UK... How do you approach them in terms of selecting which donors will come to work in your country?
**Minister:** I think we should have a donor for every area. We are rebuilding our country and there is no shortage of needs. I would invite our friends and development partners to co-ordinate themselves – to select among themselves what are the areas in which they can best help. Whether it is security, finance management, creating jobs, infrastructure or social development.

**g7+ Media:** What are the 2 biggest challenges for Somalia in the next 10 years?
**Minister:** Security is the challenge number 1. This is our immediate need. We have done some work on that but we need to develop further – we need to reach a point of stabilization. We would like our partners to come forward and to work on this challenge with us. We need our local security forces to be trained and to be equipped enough to protect our streets.

**g7+ Media:** As a senior member of the g7+ what would you like to say to your fellow Ministers?
**Minister:** I would like to say: stay united, you are in the right path. We need to see the progress and dividends of this system – we need to stay together to conclude this process.

We thank Minister Suleiman for his time in what was a very busy schedule in Washington. Readers may want to know that the Minister, and his President are frequent users of twitter and their twitter feeds can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

COUNTRY UPDATE - BURUNDI CONTINUED ...

Aid transparency is a reality in Burundi mainly through the publication of the Annual report on aid flows through the Partners Coordination Group and on [www.sp-cnca.gov.bi](http://www.sp-cnca.gov.bi).

Use of country systems by development partners is low at 23% in 2010 but efforts are being made by partners and government to strengthen those systems. A Strategic retreat with civil society and the private sector was held on 14th and 15th of March 2013 resulting in a Civil Society Action Plan for the monitoring and evaluation of the New Deal and the CSLP II.

Upcoming events in Burundi include sectoral conferences which are being prepared with partners to improve development outcomes.

Burundi’s next election is in 2015.

For more information click [here](#).
These are some of the upcoming meetings involving the g7+.

27-28 May: 3rd g7+ Technical Meeting, Dubai, UAE
29-30 May: New Deal Implementation Working Group meeting, Dubai, UAE
29-30 May: Meeting of the High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, New York, USA
5-6 June: International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF) Director Level Meeting, Paris, France
6-7 June: ADB-AusAid Forum on Building Resilience in Asia and the Pacific, Manila, Philippines
6-7 June: UN Development Cooperation Forum, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
11-12 July: Steering Committee meeting on Global Partnership for effective development cooperation (location tbc)
17-19 September: IMF Economic Growth and Natural Resources conference, Dili, Timor-Leste
24-29 September: 67th United Nations General Assembly, New York, USA
11-13 October: World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings, Washington DC, USA
October: 3rd g7+ Ministerial Retreat, Guinea Bissau (date tbc)
November: 4th g7+ technical meeting (date and location tbc)
December: International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF) Director Level Meeting, Paris, France